

REMARKS

In the present application, Examiner Tran noted that claims 1-20 are pending in the application, that claims 17-20 are allowed, that claims 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 11-13, and 16 are rejected, and that claims 2, 6, 7, 10, 14, and 15 are objected to. By this amendment, claim 2 is cancelled; claims 1, 5, 6, 7, and 9 are amended; and new claim 21 is added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present claims in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

I. Amendment in the Specification:

As noted above, the specification paragraph from page 5, line 29 to page 6, line 9 has been replaced. Upon review of the application, Applicant respectfully submits the foregoing minor revision and declares that no new matter has been included.

Applicant's substituted specification replaces the phrase "called party" on page 6, line 3 with the phrase "calling party." When the unamended sentence is viewed in context with its surrounding subject matter, the discrepancy becomes evident to one of the ordinary skill in the art. In context, the specification discloses a transfer operation, wherein a secondary signal switching point detects whether a message transferred from an *originating* signal switching point includes a privacy indicator. Because the originating signal switching point receives and transfers a call placed from the calling device, it is clear that the secondary signal switching point detects the presence of a *calling* party's privacy service.

For at least the foregoing reason, Applicant respectfully submits that the substitute specification includes no new matter and involves a change of form, rather than substance.

II. Objected to Claims:

Dependency Requirement

Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informality: dependency should be depending on claim 4 rather than claim 3. As shown above, claim 5 has been amended as requested by Examiner Tran. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Objection to Claims, Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 6, 7, 10, 14, and 15 are objected to under MPEP § 608.01(n) as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Base claim 1 has been amended as shown above to incorporate the allowable subject matter from unamended dependent claim 2; these changes are also discussed below. As a result, claim 2 has been canceled. Furthermore, claims 6 and 7 have been amended as shown above to reflect dependency from amended independent claim 1, and are, therefore, allowable.

Base claim 9 has also been amended as shown above. As discussed below, Applicant asserts that amended independent claim 9 overcomes a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated. As a result, dependent claims 10, 14, and 15 no longer depend from a rejected base claim and are, therefore, allowable.

For at least the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6 and 7 depend directly from an allowable independent claim 1 and that claims 10, 14, and 15 depend, directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim 9. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to these claims is respectfully requested.

III. Prior Art Rejections:

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1, 3, 9, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,459,782 to Bedrosian et al. (hereinafter "Bedrosian"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As to amended independent claim 1, Applicant's claimed invention is drawn to a method for acquiring location data about a calling party at a called device. A particular database to query is detected based on the received identifier from amongst a plurality of databases containing location data about calling parties that are indexed by identifiers, and the particular database that is detected is queried to obtain the location data by

looking-up the identifier. As noted above, claim 1 (as amended) incorporates allowable subject matter from canceled claim 2 in accordance with the findings of the Examiner.

Bedrosian discloses a method for generating travel directions from the location of a called device to the location of a telephone caller. The method for acquiring destination information corresponding to the location of the telephone caller includes the step of searching a locally assembled address book using caller identification information and subsequently searching telephone directory information to obtain the location of the calling party when the destination information is not found in the address book.

However, as conceded by the Examiner, Bedrosian fails to disclose detecting a particular database to query based on the identifier. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Bedrosian.

As to amended independent claim 9, Applicant's claimed invention is drawn to a system for acquiring location data of a calling party. The system includes a category list maintained by a called device and referenced when detecting an appropriate electronic database to query for location data, wherein the calling party identifier forwarded to the called device falls into a particular category within the list that identifies the particular database to query.

As discussed above, Bedrosian discloses a system for generating travel directions from the location of a called device to the location of a telephone caller. The system for acquiring destination information corresponding to the location of the telephone caller includes a computer program operative to control a computer system to search a locally assembled address book using caller identification information and subsequently searching telephone directory information to obtain the location of the calling party when the destination information is not found in the address book.

However, Bedrosian fails to disclose a category list where a category of an identifier of the calling party identifies the particular database to query. Accordingly, claim 9 is allowable over Bedrosian.

For at least the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that the teaching of Bedrosian cannot anticipate amended independent claims 1 and 9 due to the above-noted deficiencies in the teaching of Bedrosian. Since claim 3 depends from claim 1 and recites additional claim features, the teaching of Bedrosian cannot anticipate claim

3. Similarly, since claim 11 depends from claim 9 and recites additional claim features, the teaching of Bedrosian cannot anticipate claim 11. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 4, 5, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,459,782 to Bedrosian et al. (hereinafter "Bedrosian") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,569 to Pelletier et al. (hereinafter "Pelletier"). Claims 8 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bedrosian in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,449,531 to Moss et al. (hereinafter "Moss"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 4, 5, and 8 depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claim 1 and incorporate at least the limitations of claim 1. Similarly, claims 12, 13, and 16 depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claim 9 and incorporate at least the limitations of claim 9. Applicant notes that claim 1 has been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from canceled claim 2. Applicant further notes that claim 9 has been amended and placed in condition for allowance. As discussed above, Bedrosian fails to teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 1 and 9 and, therefore, fails to anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

With respect to the rejections based on Bedrosian and Pelletier, Pelletier discloses a method for providing enhanced caller identification that permits management of privacy levels at the called device, but fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claims 1 and 9 (as amended). Independent claims 1 and 9 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because neither Bedrosian nor Pelletier, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the recitations of these claims. Claims 4 and 5 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 1. Likewise, claims 12 and 13 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 9 and are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 9. Therefore, the rejections of claims 4, 5, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejections based on Bedrosian and Moss, Moss discloses a method for providing a caller identification with name service, but also fails to teach or

suggest each and every element of claims 1 and 9 (as amended). Independent claims 1 and 9 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because neither Bedrosian nor Moss, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the recitations of these claims. Claim 8 depends from claim 1 and is patentable for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 1. Claim 16 depends from claim 9 and is patentable for at least the same reasons stated above with respect to claim 9. Therefore, the rejection of claims 8 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should also be withdrawn.

IV. New Claim 21:

New claim 21 is directed to further embodiments of Applicant's claimed invention. New claim 21 depends directly from claim 4, which depends from allowable independent claim 1. New claim 21 recites additional claim features and is allowable for at least the reasons provided above for claim 1.

Support for new dependent claim 21 may be found in the specification from page 5, line 29 to page 7, line 9. No new matter has been added.

V. Conclusion:

For at least the reasons given above, Applicant submits that claims 1-21 define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of these claims.

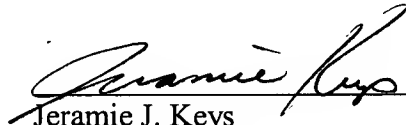
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Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD

Date: June 25, 2003


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